Testimony before the Housing Committee SB 157 An Act Concerning Adequate and Safe Housing for the Elderly and Young Persons with Disabilities

February 23, 2016

Cynthia Williams, Waterbury CT

Good afternoon Senator Winfield, Representative Osten and members of the Housing Committee. My name is Cynthia Williams and I would like to oppose S.B. 157 an Act Concerning Adequate and Safe Housing for the Elderly and Young Persons with Disabilities.

Almost two years ago, I was living in a dangerous situation in a bad building with lots of drugs and violence. I was brutally robbed and attacked a few years earlier, and needed to have good housing. With all of the trauma I experienced, the last thing I would need is to be discriminated against while I looked for housing. It got to the point where I could not move into any of these buildings, because I was not 65, but I am disabled and have been since I was six weeks old. I now live in a private house, on the second floor because I am too afraid to live on the first floor.

People with disabilities are in a protected class for a reason. All of us, whether we are elderly or disabled, would have to abide by a lease agreement and have rules to follow. Please consider expanding housing for all people.

I thank you for your time

Sincerely, Cynthia Williams